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The University of
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NEWS RELEASE

April 13, 2007

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UM CELEBRATES A SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS WITH EARTH WEEK

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana will celebrate the 38th Earth Day with campus events starting Monday, April 16, and culminating Saturday, April 21, with Earth Service Day and UM's Aber Day. The University will join the Missoula community on Earth Day, Sunday, April 22, with festivities in Caras Park.

A myriad of events and work opportunities will be featured on the UM campus. Earth Week-related films will be shown, speakers will cover a range of topics and tours, and many other events and activities are planned.

Participants can play Global Wheel of Fortune and calculate their Ecological Footprint at tables in the University Center or visit UM's Earth Service Station in the Facilities Services compound and have their cars' tires properly inflated to save fuel. They can help stencil storm drains in UM parking lots with signs that say "Dump No Waste – Drains to River" or tour UM's Native Plant gardens.

Scheduled events are:

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Monday, April 16—6:30 p.m., UM President George Dennison announces “UM's Climate Commitment,” describing the University's commitment to reducing its production of greenhouse gases, Gallagher Building Room 122.

Tuesday, April 17—6:30 p.m., David Merrill of GlobalWarmingSolution.org, presents “Rosie Revisited,” an interactive presentation that describes a U.S.-led international effort to address global warming, Gallagher Building Room 122. The presentation recalls the “can-do” attitude of Rosie the Riveter, who symbolized Americans' united effort in transforming the U.S. economy to meet the challenges of World War II.

Tuesday-Saturday, April 17-21—7:30 p.m., “Urinetown—The Musical,” Montana Theatre, a musical that explores problems of water shortages. A production of the UM drama/dance department. Information: 243-4581.

Wednesday, April 18—through the day, tables in the UC (Ecological Footprint, Global Wheel of Fortune, Bear Aware); 2-4 p.m., tour of UM's Native Plant Gardens (meet Kelly on the west side of the UC); 2-4 p.m., stencil UM storm drains (meet on south side of the UC, the library side); call 253-722-7639 in advance to assure sufficient supplies.

Wednesday, April 18—6:30 p.m., Brian Kerns speaks on Montana wind power and Peggy Miller presents a plan for getting Missoula off oil, followed by screening of the film “Kilowatt Hours,” Gallagher Building Room 122.

Thursday, April 19—through the day, tables in the UC; 2-4 p.m., Earth Service Station at UM Facilities Services; 5 p.m., Earth Celebration on the Oval, displays, games and eco-footprint races; at 6:30 p.m. Missoula Mayor John Engen explains “Missoula's Climate

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Commitment;" after sunset, screening of a made-in-Montana movie on climate change and "Happy Feet," an animated film about penguins dancing as they lose their homes to global warming. (All events held in Gallagher Building Room 106 if it rains.)

Friday, April 20—noon-2 p.m., open house at the alternative energy site at MonTEC; 2-4 p.m., Earth Service Station at UM Facilities Services.

Saturday, April 21—10 a.m.-noon, annual Clark Fork River Cleanup, meet at Van Buren footbridge at 10 a.m. to work on the river near campus. Information: 243-5153. To work on other parts of the river, meet at Caras Park at 10 a.m. Contact: Clark Fork Coalition at 542-0539.

Weed pull—10 a.m.-1 p.m., Mount Sentinel Prairie Restoration (pull weeds & spread native seeds). Meet at Mount Sentinel trailhead at 10 a.m. or walk up the trail. **Can collection**—10 a.m.-4 p.m., Habitat for Humanity can collection, sites at Pacific Steele, Brooks Walmart, UM Oval. Information: deeann_555@hotmail.com or 250-6220.

Refreshments and barbecue—noon, refreshments available for workers at the Mount Sentinel trailhead; barbecue at Caras Park.

Dumpster dive—1-2:30 p.m., sort recyclables at UM Recycle Shed (behind Facility Services).

Build a bike—noon-4 p.m., Festival of Cycles in Bonner Park. Information: 880-6834.

Farm chores—2-5 p.m., PEAS Farm, Duncan Drive in the Rattlesnake Valley, compost making. (Dress for dirt and mud.)

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Dance—7:30- 11 p.m., UC Ballroom, sponsored by the Associated Students of UM Student Folklore Society; featuring easy-to-learn folk dances and old-time fiddle music by the Parlor Pickers. All dances are taught and no experience or partner is needed. Cost is \$7 general; \$5 for students and society members; children under 14 free.

“Ecopentathletes” are people who volunteer to ride their bikes from event to event, working about an hour at each. Those wishing to participate will need a bike and helmet (UM students can borrow these from UM), a water bottle and work gloves. Free T-shirts will given out while supplies last.

Ecopentathletes will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 21, at Kim Williams Trail by the Van Buren Bridge. To participate, contact Vicki Watson at vicki.watson@umontana.edu.

Earth Day events will be held from noon to 7 p.m. Sunday, April 22, at Caras Park. For more information, contact the Missoula Urban Demonstration Project at 721-7513 or e-mail mud@wildrockies.org.

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